

2 ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರ ವರದಿ

ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ (ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭೆ) :- ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ, ಈ ದಿನ ಘನತೆವೆತ್ತ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣದ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು :- ಈಗ ಸದನವನ್ನು ನಾಳೆ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಸೇರುವಂತೆ ಮುಂದೂಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

(ಸದನವು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 2.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮುಕ್ತಾಯಗೊಂಡು ದಿನಾಂಕ
17-01-2009 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಸಮಾವೇಶಗೊಳ್ಳಲು
ನಿಶ್ಚಯಿಸಿತು)

Honorable Chairman, Honorable Speaker and Honorable Members,

I wish you all a very happy new year and Sankranti. I also extend a hearty welcome to all of you to this joint session of the Karnataka Legislature. This is the second session being held in Belgaum, which is very prominent city of Karnataka. This session is also an indication of my Government's commitment to the development of North Karnataka and border areas.

2. The people of Karnataka have given their verdict for stability in administration by voting for my Government overwhelmingly in the recent by-election. The by-election results are an expression of voters 'appreciation and support to the developmental and progressive policies of the Government. I thank the people of Karnataka for their vote of faith in my Government. I believe the responsibilities of my Government have further increased with this verdict of the people.

3. In the address made before the Legislature in June last year, I had promised that action will be taken soon to concretize to resolve of the new Government to provide a development oriented and responsive administration to build a strong and prosperous Karnataka. I am very happy to state today the Government is moving forward in the development path, as promised. It may also be recalled that this Government had promised to present a progress report before the people of the Karnataka every 100 days. Accordingly, on the occasion of completion of the first hundred days, a picture of the progress made was placed before the people through the publication titled "strong foundation for a magnificent future". A detailed progress report of two hundred days has recently been presented before the people highlighting how the development of the State is being brought about on a strong foundation.

4. Even though it is difficult to assess the progress made by a Government elected for five years in a mere seven months, the direction of the progress can be identified in the light of the Government's policies, goals, projects and the manner of the administration of the Government . We have effectively faced the challenges that we encountered in the last seven months due to the shortage of chemical fertilizers, the power shortage due to various factors, the failure of monsoon and the natural calamities, and the law and order problems created by anti-social elements and terrorists.

Current Economic Scenario :

5. We are facing difficult times due to the severe economic slow down that has occurred at the global level. As a result, the Information Technology sector, which has contributed a major share to the economic strength of Karnataka is also facing a slow down. A down trend has also been experienced in the readymade garments sector, industrial production and the sale of motor vehicles. There is also been a marked reduction in the sale and registration of the immovable properties. Consequently revenue collection in the State has been less than what was anticipated.

6. The Government however faces the serious responsibility of providing adequate funds for all development works from out of the State's resources even in the backdrop of the economic crisis and it is trying to do so within the framework of the Fiscal Responsibility Act:

Internal Security:

7. Our country is presently facing the very big challenge of providing internal security and stability. It is time for the nation to fight unitedly against terrorist activities being carried out at the instigation of external agencies. My Government has given top most priority to maintaining law and order and has taken adequate steps to protect the person and property of the citizens of the State. This, in particular, includes sanction of a proposal to establish (24/7) twenty four by seven state of the alert police control rooms in all districts and at the State level, strengthening intelligence and internal security

wings, around the clock monitoring of the law and order situation, protection to sensitive and important private and public installation, additional grants to the Police Department, filling up of vacant posts and capacity building in the department, better coordination with the Central Government and Citizen's Participation in security matters.

8. Terrorism has transgressed the borders of the country .We all need to be extremely alert after the dastardly attack carried out on Mumbai last November. States need technical and financial assistance from the Central Government and also specialized troops. It is necessary for us to equip ourselves better to prevent terrorism.

9. Though my Government made a strong case for stationing an NSG unit in Bangalore, it has not been agreed to. A city like Bangalore which is of global importance and has sensitive defence establishments certainly merits an NSG unit. We have taken up this matter with the Union Government and Hon'ble Prime Minister. My Government once again strongly urges the Government of India to provide the necessary NSG support to Bangalore.

Taking Government to the People:

10. We have initiated the Janaspandana programme from September 20,2008 in order to take the Government to the doorstep of the people and to re-address the problems of the common man. Hobli level Janaspandana programmes have been going on in all Talukas regularly on Saturdays (barring second Saturdays). Till now about 5.50 lakh petitions have been

received and 3.60 lakh petitions have been disposed of (65%). This innovative measure has substantially reduced the hardship of people having to go to Government offices and awaiting to meet officials. The Janaspandana programme has also become a useful platform to redress the grievances of the public, apart from taking directly to the targeted beneficiaries and several of schemes such as Sandhya Suraksha, Bhagyalakshmi and various pension schemes, the benefits of the schemes. In coming days, action is proposed to be taken to extend this popular programme to oversee the implementation of village level schemes, inspection of public works and the working of Governmental establishments such as Anganawadi Schools and Hospitals.

11. The Hyderabad-Karnataka region of our state is very Backward Economically, educationally and socially. My Government is committed to the all round development of this region. We have been urging the Central Government to amend Article 371 to the Constitution and give a statutory momentum to the integrated development of this region. Amendment of article 371 is essential to create Educational and Employment opportunities for the youth and People of Hyderabad – Karnataka. Let us together once again urge the Central Government through this House to amend Article 371. On our part, we have , as per the Nanjudappa Committee of this area and provided substantial grants in the budget. We have constituted a high level committee to oversee the implementation of the development programmes of the region.

Realizing the Dreams of Farmers:

12. Many programmes are being taken up to make the dreams of farmers a reality. A subsidy of Rs.1000/- is being given to small and marginal farmers dependent on dry land cultivation. Rs.210 crores has been released so far for the purpose. Loans aggregating to Rs.2486 crores have been given to 9.64 lakh farmers at 3% interest. The programme to train one thousand farmers in order to enable them to compete in the global market by sending them abroad has commenced. Two teams have already been sent to China. Financial assistance of Rs.250 crores has been given to Karnataka Co-Operative Marketing Federation for the purchase of fertilizers and subsidy of Rs.44 crores has been given for the supply of quality seeds to farmers. Assistance of Rs.45 crores has been given to 12,000 farmers under the agricultural mechanization scheme.

13. Ordinances have been promulgated issued to establish an Agricultural University at Raichur in Gulbarga Division and a Horticultural University in Bagalkot in Belgaum Division Respectively. Bills to replace these ordinances will be presented in this Session.

14. To reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers, organic agriculture is being encouraged. A Commission of Organic Farming has been constituted with experts and progressive farmers as members for the first time in any State in the Country. The Commission has started its work in earnestness and already enrolled 51,000 farmers throughout the State.

15. A Water Resource Authority has been created for proper and effective use of water. During the current year, sum of Rs.1500 crores has been spent in irrigation and additional irrigation provided to 25,000 acres of land. Approval has been given to the Upper Bhadra Project which had been kept in abeyance for many years. As a result, more than 2.5 lakh acres of land in Chikmangalur and Chitradurga districts will be bought under irrigation. 156 tanks will be filled with water. Approval has also been given to the revised estimate of Rs.272 crores for the Dandavathi Irrigation Project in Sorba taluk. My Government has given great importance to small irrigation projects: A Project will be prepared for the integrated development of tanks in the State and the development of these tanks is proposed to be taken up in the coming year.

16. An additional amount of Rs.2 per liter of milk is being given as an incentive to farmers. So far, Rs.65 crores have been released and more than 5.5 lakh women belonging to milk producing homes have benefited.

17. The farmer will continue to be central to our development programmes in the next year as well. We are determined to ensure the comprehensive development of farmers by taking care of their problems. The report prepared by the Krishi Mission and Vision 2020 will be utilized for the purpose.

Initiatives in the Power Sector:

18. It is unfortunate that there is presently an acute shortage of electricity in our State, the very State that generated

electricity for the first time in the country. Inadequate planning and appreciation of the growing demand for power are among the causes contributing to the present situation. My Government has made significant progress in planning for electricity generation of 5000 megawatts in the next five years, as announced earlier. An agreement has been signed with Chattisgarh Government to establish a thermal power plant of 2400 megawatt capacity near the coal deposits of Chattigarh. KPCL has already opened its office in Raipur land acquisition proceedings for 1200 acres have been started.

19. An agreement has also been signed with NTPC last week to establish a mega-thermal power plant of 4000 Megawatt capacity at Kudagi in Bijapur. Another agreement has been signed between BHEL and KPCL to establish a thermal power project of 2400 megawatt capacity in Raichur district. Approval has also given to NTPC to establish wind-power plant of 500 megawatt capacity. These are truly historic decisions and should help State overcome this power shortage in four to five years from now.

20. During the current year, the first unit of 500 megawatt capacity has started functioning at the Bellary thermal power plant. Of the target of 1000 megawatts of additional power generation fixed for this year, a capacity of 910 megawatt of hydro electric power and renewable energy has been created.

21. Despite the shortage of power, electricity as promised has been supplied to all 10 hp irrigation pump sets from 1-8-2008.

Power worth more than Rs.400 crores has been purchased from outside the State and independent producers. With a view to providing uninterrupted power to rural areas, a special project has been taken up at a cost of 18.67 crores on an experimental basis by fixing a separate feeder in Malur taluk. Similar uninterrupted power supply projects are to taken up at Kushtagi, Bailhongal and Malavalli talukas also. This scheme will be introduced in other talukas subsequently in a phased manner.

Education for All:

22. A sum of Rs.505 crores has already been spent so far on the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyana this year. An additional 35% grants has been provided for the Scheme. Construction of 6500 class rooms has been taken up. Rs.40 crores have been released to provide infrastructure to School in Backward Talukas.

23. A Scheme for loans up to Rs.5 Lakhs at the Economical Interest of 6% has been introduced for Students taking up Higher Studies. Action has been taken to establish a Sanskrit and Vedic University at Bangalore and a Music and Dance University at Mysore. An ordinance has been promulgated to establish a Law university at Hubli and the Bill for replacing the ordinance will be presented in this Session. A special grant has been released to the Gulbarga University to establish the Dr.Ambedkar Study Center.

24. A knowledge Commission has been constituted, perhaps for the first time in the country at the State level. A Vision Group has also been constituted to encourage Development of Science and Technology.

Heath Service:

25. The "Arogya Kavacha" Scheme has been extended for providing emergency Health Services. 517 Ambulances are to be provided across the State by 2010. 77 Ambulances with all medical facilities are already running and their services can be availed by calling number "108", which is toll free. In order to bring down the maternal and infant mortality rates the Thaiy Bhagya Scheme has been implemented.

26. Drug testing laboratories are being set up in Hubli and Bellary, Dialysis units in Gulbarga, Bidar, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Karwar, Chitradurga, Chamrajnagar and Chikmangalur Districts. Burn wards have been taken up in Gulbarga, Bidar, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Shimoga and Chamrajnagar. Grants required for the construction of a new general hospital at Indiranagar in Bangalore. District Hospitals at Gulbarga and Chamrajnagar, and Medical College Buildings at Bidar, Belgaum, Raichur, Shimoga, Hassan and Mandya have already been released.

27. To provide better health services to every poor family in the State, my Government is formulating a scheme to bear medical expenses up to Rs.1.5 lakh through Health Insurance. It is proposed to bring nearly 16 Lakh poor families of Gulbarga Division under this Scheme in the first phase and subsequently to cover the entire State.

Social Development: Equal Opportunities for all:

28. Action has been taken to distribute ration cards to 78 lakhs households below the poverty line throughout the State so far. Specific action is being taken at the earliest possible to cover all those left out or not yet identified.

29. Under the Bhagyalakshmi Scheme Rs.148 crores have been spent till now during the current year and bonds with a present value of Rs.10,000 have been issued to 1.48 lakhs female infants. The process of issuing bonds with maturity value of Rs.1 lakh to female children born after 1-8-08, as per the modified scheme, is on. Under the Sandhya Suraksha Scheme, monthly pension is being given to more than 3.5 lakh senior citizens.

30. Training for Employment through Nemmadi telecentres is being given Scheduled Caste candidates. 119 new pre-metric and post-metric hostels of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students and 174 post-metric hostels for students of Backward Classes have been started. Totally 17,000 students have been benefitted as a result.

31. The monthly Pension of persons having disability of more than 75% has been increased to Rs.1000. So far, 5500 disabled have benefitted under the new scheme. Maintenance charges for disabled children in special schools run by non-Government Organization has been increased to Rs.600.

32. Sanction has been accorded to 25 new hostels for minorities and 8 hostels have already started function. Aggregate loan of Rs.23 crores has been sanctioned to 17,894 beneficiaries under various schemes through the Karnataka State Minorities Development Corporation.

33. For safeguarding the documents relating to Wakfproperties, computerization has been taken up. A high level task force has been constituted to clear encroachments on Wakf property.

Rural Development:

34. Karnataka stands second in the country in the implementation of Pradhana Mantri Grama Sadak Yojana. Quality wise, the state has been adjudged as the best in the country. During the current year, construction of 831 Kms of roads, worth Rs.205 crores has been taken up. Drinking Water Schemes have been taken up at a cost of Rs.515 Crores in villages, and, especially in rural schools.

35. During the current year, under the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, employment cards have been distributed to 29.52 lakh rural families. Under the Suvarna Gramodaya Scheme, Rs.242 Crores have been granted to Zilla Panchayts. Approval for the Development of an additional 200 villages in Gulbarga division has already been given at an estimated cost of Rs.208 Crores. Another 1000 village are proposed to be included under this scheme this Year.

Road Network throughout the State:

36. Improvement of roads is very important for economic and Social Development of the State. Since the network of roads in our State is not adequate and needs to be strengthened, it has been considered necessary to prepare a comprehensive scheme to develop quality road connectivity throughout the state. 10,000 Kms of roads will be taken up in the first phase and new State policy for the development of roads has been adopted by the Government. Improvement of the remaining 56,000 kms of roads will be taken up subsequently in phases and plans for the same are also being prepared. These roads will be tolled as

per the guidelines of the Planning Commission and taken up with private participation. On the same lines, in order to improve the rural roads throughout the State, it is proposed to take up a state-wide initiative and an integrated approach is being planned on apriority basis.

37. The Public Works Department has spent more than Rs.1000 Crores in the current year for the improvement and maintenance of roads. The work of road improvement will be accelerated further through KSHIP and KSDCL. A special task force has been formed to monitor the quality of the roads being constructed.

Housing:

38. During the current year, the Rajeev Gandhi rural Housing Corporation has completed more than a lakh houses. The unit of cost has been increased from Rs.30,000 to Rs.40,000 this year by my Government. Further, the process for selection of 2 lakh fresh beneficiaries has commenced. Work on the construction of 13,000 houses through the Karnataka Slum Clearance Board has begun and is at various stages of completion.

Improvements in Communication :

39. My Government is committed to providing air connectivity to all District Headquarters and has taken significant action in this regard. Action has been taken to develop airports at Gulbarga, Shimoga, Bijapur and Hassan under Pubic Private Partnership [PPP]. The State Government has constructed the terminal building near Bidar Air force

Airport at a cost of Rs.3 crores and permission of the Central Government is awaited to commence civilian operation there. Preliminary works have begun for the construction of airports in Davangere, Bagalkot, Kushalnagar, Raichur and Chikmangalur. It is expected that Mysore Airport will start functioning shortly.

40. The long pending construction work on Gadag-Solapur railway line has been completed and opened for traffic. Five railway projects are in progress with their cost of construction being shared by railway Ministry and State. In order to complete these projects quickly, the state will provide its share of funds henceforth too. We request the Central Government to also help in the completion of all these projects in time, by allocating sufficient funds for them.

Industries and Skill Development:

41. As already mentioned, as a result of the world financial and economic slowdown, the national and the State industries have suffered a setback. In spite of this situation, investors are showing interest in Karnataka and State Government has accorded approval for establishing 282 new industries in the State, involving a total likely investment of Rs.36,000 crores. This is expected to Generate Employment for 5 lakh Persons.

42. The Skill Development Corporation has been set up in order to promote employment generation in the State. Recently 41,000 candidates seeking employment participated in Udyoga Melas Organized in Bangalore, Hubli and Mysore. Over 10,000 candidates were selected for employment in 224 industries through these job fairs. Arrangements are also being made to

provide training and skill formation to 15,500 selected candidates. Nine new Industrial Training Institutes have started functioning during the present year so far.

43. A new Textile Policy was announced by my Government this year. An action plan of Rs.25 crores has been prepared to promote the textile industry as per the policy. A policy has also been announced by the State Government for the benefit of farmers growing grapes in the State.

44. Accelerating industrialization is necessary for the development of the State. Employment opportunities need to be created for those who are engaged in agricultural work in the industrial sector. For this purpose, a Vision-Group has been set-up to give suggestion and guides the Government. Along with this, a new industrial policy is being formulated for the further development and promotion of industries.

Priority to Kannada and Culture:

45. The continuous and tireless efforts of Kannadigas and the State Government has resulted in Kannada being classical language status by the Central Government on 1st November 2008. We are grateful that this long pending demand of the State has been met. It is proposed to construct Kannada Bhavans at important places in the border areas. Work on the Dr. Rajkumar Memorial has commenced and several steps taken during the year to expedite its construction.

46. The State Government has decided to observe Kanakadasa Jayanthi to honour the well known social reformer from this year onward, throughout the State. The Jayanthi has also been declared as a Government Holiday. A grant of Rs.10 crores has

been sanctioned for the development of Kaginele where Saint Kanakadasa composed most of his kirtanas. The Development of Basava Kalyana has also been taken up in earnestness and Rs. 11 crores provided for the purpose during the year.

47. It is a matter of grate pride and joy for all fellow Kanndaigas that Government of India has conferred the “Bharat Ratna” on Pandit Dr. Bheemsen Joshi, My Government will very shortly felicitate the great son of Karnataka in a benefiting manner.

48. I am also happy to inform you all that the year 2009 has been declared as the “Kannada Anushthana Varsha” to give primacy to the Kannada Language.

Development of Tourism:

49. From this year onward, the Mysore Dasara will be celebrated as Nada Habba. The festival was celebrated on a grand scale last October. In the same manner, the Hampi Utsava also celebrated with great enthusiasm and grandeur.

50. Work on the Construction of an International Convention Center in outskirts of Bangalore at the cost of Rs.1200 Crores has commenced.

Urban Development:

51. A sum of Rs.100 Crores each has been provided to the 6 Mahanagara Palikas of the State, an unprecedented initiative taken my Government. Action plans for the utilization of this amount have been drawn up. Works have already commenced in each of the Mahanagara Palikas. In Bangalore and Mysore cities, 46 schemes are being implemented at a cost of Rs.3240 crores under the JNNURM project.

52. The pace of work on the Namma Metro Project in Bangalore has been stepped up and Rs.448 crores has been spent in the first 200 days of this year. This amount is equal to 50% of the expenditure on the Metro so far.

53. The "Agenda for Bangalore Infrastructure Development" (ABIDE), a special task force, has been set up under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister to guide and make recommendations on the developmental works being taken up in Bangalore. Meetings of ABIDE are being held on a regular and continuous basis providing for citizens participation in the development of the city. Action has been initiated for the development and widening of Bangalore roads. More than 1187 roads have been started at a cost of Rs.300 Crores. Rs.623 Crores have been sanctioned for the works in areas newly brought under the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike and the works in these areas are in progress in different phases.

Transport:

54. 1588 new Vehicles have been purchased by the State Road Transport Corporation at a cost of Rs.300 crore. Training Centers for heavy vehicle driving have been set up in Hassan, Hagaribommanahalli, Vaddarhalli – Kengeri and Hubli. Work on the construction of the Mysore Truck Terminal has commenced.

Administrative Reforms:

55. The great poet Sarvajna said that he accumulated knowledge by learning a little from each and everyone. Similarly, My Government has also endeavoured to benefit from the advice rendered by specialists, experts and intellectuals in

various areas of administration. We have constituted commissions, committees and task forces headed by experts in order to seek guidance and advice in various branches of administration. Their work has already commenced and they are expected to present their reports soon. The suggestions and recommendations of these bodies will be taken in to account in the preparation of our forthcoming budget and formulation of new projects and schemes.

56. Expert committees have also been constituted for the effective implementation of E-Governance projects and initiatives. Preliminary work on issuing identity cards to all citizens of the State has begun.

57. Over the years, a number of laws have become obsolete due to passage of time and changes in circumstances. Such laws need to be brought up to date or new laws enacted to meet the new situation and challenges. My Government has therefore established a new State Law Commission, inter-alia for this purpose.

58. My Government will make sincere efforts to realize the aspirations of the people and also to implement the various promises and assurances it has given to the people. I earnestly hope that you will all co-operate with the Government and enable us to achieve this goal. Your participation is essential for providing a pro-people and pro-development administration to the State. Let us work hard together, to make Karnataka a more developed and better governed State.

Jai Hind

Jai Karnataka